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ARIZONA CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

CAN!

PREVENTION PLAN





“Arizona must commit to making child abuse prevention an integral part of our child welfare system and community action. To make this a reality, we must link effective public and private programs to form a true prevention network. This plan shines a light on how—together—we can assure more of our children are safe and healthy, and their parents get help early, before the damage is done.”

— GOVERNOR JANET NAPOLITANO



*I am
safe and
healthy.*

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WHAT EVERYONE CAN DO:

- ▶ Buy a Child Abuse Prevention License Plate www.servicearizona.com
- ▶ Put the check on child abuse by making a donation to the Child Abuse Prevention Fund on your Arizona State Tax Return when you sign it each year.
- ▶ Join local advocates in your Regional Prevention Council. For a current list of contact numbers, go to: www.azdes.gov/dcyf/opfs/regional.asp

BENSON

San Pedro Family Resource Council

BULLHEAD

Bullhead City Child Abuse Prevention Council

DOUGLAS

Douglas for Stronger Families Council

EAST VALLEY

Healthy Options for Parents Through Education (HOPE)

FLAGSTAFF

Coconino Child Abuse Prevention Council

GRAND CANYON

Grand Canyon Child Abuse Prevention Council

KINGMAN

Kingman Child Abuse Prevention Council

LAKE HAVASU

Lake Havasu City Child Abuse Prevention Council

PARKER

Parker Community Child Abuse Prevention Council

PAYSON

Rim Country Child Abuse Prevention Council

PHOENIX

Greater Phoenix Child Abuse Prevention Council

PIMA COUNTY

Pima County Child Abuse Prevention Council

PINAL COUNTY

Pinal Council for Child Abuse Prevention & Education

PRESCOTT, PRESCOTT VALLEY, CHINO VALLEY

Tri-City Area Child Abuse Prevention Council

SAFFORD

Graham-Greenlee Regional Child Abuse Prevention Council

SIERRA VISTA

Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse

TUBA CITY

Greater Tuba City Regional Child Abuse Prevention Council

VERDE VALLEY

Verde Valley & Sedona Child Abuse Prevention Council

WHITERIVER

Kinishba CAP Council

WILLIAMS

Williams Child Abuse Prevention Council

WINSLOW

Winslow Child Abuse Prevention Council

YUMA

Yuma County Child Abuse Prevention Council

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Prevent Child Abuse Arizona
www.pcaaz.org

Arizona Department of Economic Security
Division for Children, Youth and Families
Office of Prevention and Family Support
www.azdes.gov/dcyf/opfs/default.asp

Office of Governor Janet Napolitano
www.governor.state.az.us

OUR VISION:

All Arizona's children grow up safe and healthy, free from abuse and neglect.

How can this vision be accomplished? By informing everyone in Arizona that child abuse and neglect is preventable, and exactly what they can do today to make prevention more prevalent than child abuse and neglect.

Everyone has a role to play in preventing child abuse and neglect.

And all of us have an enormous stake in our children's safety and well-being. We feel the painful tragedy of child abuse and pay the price for not preventing it before it happens.

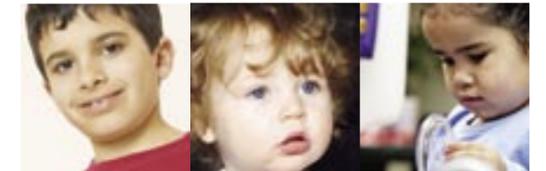
Child abuse costs us daily in emergency services, law enforcement and social service resources, health care, mental health treatment, special education and juvenile and adult corrections.

Most of all, it costs thousands of children and families their hopes and dreams for the future.

Arizona spends billions of dollars each year responding to child abuse and neglect. Our child protection system is much improved, yet reports keep coming in and far too many children need the protection of foster care.

Our public investments continue to lag in effective strategies that work to promote parents' capacity to raise healthy, well-adjusted children.

Today we know enough to begin growing a prevention system, in every community from Tuba City to Nogales, and Yuma to Whiteriver. Arizonans must work together, as partners in prevention, to help create positive outcomes for children, families and communities.



OUR ROLE AS ARIZONA CITIZENS:

- ▶ As business people, we can learn about the cost effectiveness and economic benefits of prevention and get other business leaders involved.
- ▶ As funders, we can invest in promising approaches for families and children in communities throughout the state.
- ▶ As policy makers, we can champion evidence-based programs and policies.
- ▶ As community members, we can join forces with Regional Prevention Councils to take local action.
- ▶ As parents, we can reach out for help, to overcome our challenges and find support in our daily child-rearing tasks.
- ▶ As Arizonans, we can each take the health and safety of our children seriously and realize that our future rests on their young shoulders.





OUR VISION

All Arizona children grow up safe and healthy, free from abuse and neglect.



WHAT FAMILIES NEED

PARENTING SUPPORT All parents need community support and resources to succeed in raising children. Poverty, social isolation, substance abuse and domestic violence are factors that compound the risk of child maltreatment. These risk factors can be reduced by services that empower parents, provide knowledge and skills, and provide hope for families with life challenges.

ECONOMIC STABILITY The likelihood of abuse and neglect is 22 times greater in families in poverty. Community resources that inform parents of financial opportunities, provide job training, and enable access to higher education can improve family stability and children's opportunities for healthy development.

HEALTH CARE Access to primary and preventive health care can greatly reduce family stress. Healthy children are less prone to be maltreated and healthy parents are better able to care for their children.

CHILD CARE Availability of child care promotes economic stability as parents are able to maintain employment. Quality child care promotes healthy child development and school readiness, through partnerships with parents.

SCHOOLS Schools provide a unique opportunity for helping school age children learn personal safety skills, healthy beliefs and relationship skills, and character development.



STRATEGIES

- Arizona Parents Kit
- Never Shake a Baby program
- Healthy Families Arizona

- Not Even For a Minute campaign
- Family Support Centers
- Cyber Safety for Children

- DES/Family Connections
- Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

- Check Cashing Education
- Financial Literacy for Families

- Reach Out and Read
- Medical Homes for all Children

- KidsCare Health Insurance
- Dental Care
- School-Based Health Centers (SBHC)

- Mandatory Reporter Training
- Never Shake a Baby Training

- Child Care Quality
- Building Stronger Families
- Child Care Health Consultants

- Mandatory Reporter Training
- Prevention Specialists/School Counselors
- School Resource Officers

- Family Violence Prevention
- Character Counts Education
- Substance Abuse Prevention
- Sexual Abuse Prevention



LOCAL ACTION STEPS

Work with local hospitals to provide Arizona Parent Kits and Never Shake a Baby for all birth parents • Engage local media to provide Not Even for a Minute campaign messages to warn parents not to leave children in cars.

Advocate for Healthy Families Arizona, so all parents who need the program receive services in their homes starting prenatally until the child is five years old.

Work with DES to plan a Family Connections site in your community • Promote EITC for families filing tax returns.

Educate case managers and other family service providers to inform families about financial planning, including the pitfalls of pay day lenders.

Work with local pediatricians to provide Never Shake a Baby and Reach Out and Read programs and participate in the Medical Home Project.

Conduct a campaign to increase the number of children enrolled in KidsCare, dental care and available SBHCs.

Contact a local Family Advocacy Center to conduct Mandatory Reporter Training in child care centers.

Host a child care quality community meeting to promote and implement standardized child care regulations and using Child Care Health Consultants.

Assure all school staff are trained annually on Mandatory Reporting protocols for suspected child abuse • Increase quantity and quality of prevention specialists, school nurses, counselors and/or school resource officers working on campus with students and families.

Integrate healthy beliefs into curricula for teachers and students to reduce the risks of violence, exploitation, and substance abuse.